

## Blue Devil Cafe more than food service



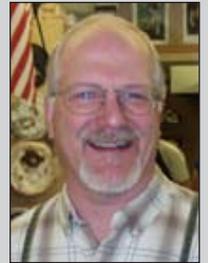
Walla Walla High School student **Iris Lozano** prepares Italian sodas for school board members last night during a presentation on the school's Blue Devil Cafe. Now in its second year, sales have tripled for this program designed to offer special education students hands on training in food service. Lattes, muffins and baked potatoes are just a few of the menu items that keep staff and students lining up for more.

Students who work in the Blue Devil Cafe are required to get a Food Workers permit. They learn industry standards for food service, presentation skills, how to dress for the work place and how to be on time. Students presented to school board members on the skills they are learning. They praised teacher **Chris Blackman** for her vision, leadership and support of this program. The objective of the program is to model, teach and reinforce job skills through applied academics, social skills training and a realistic work experience.

## Energy management update

*Energy Management program leads to less electricity, water and natural gas usage*

Despite more infrastructure demands through additional computers, after hours building usage, technology initiatives and air conditioning, the district used 12 percent less in electricity, 36 percent less in natural gas and 15 percent less in water, according to a report last night from Energy Management Program Coordinator **John Butenhoff**.



This program focuses on turning off equipment and systems when they are not in use. In year 14 of the program, the district saved the district more than \$367,000 or 23 percent on utility costs.

"WWPS spent over \$1.2 million on utilities last year, but it would have been significantly more if not for this program," said Butenhoff.

## Elementary early dismissal Feb. 21

All elementary students will be dismissed early from school Friday, Feb. 21 to allow time for report card preparations.

## No school Feb. 27- 28 / Conferences

- No school Thursday, Feb. 27 and Friday, Feb. 28
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Classes resume Monday, March 3

## In other School Board meeting business...

### **Board members:**

- approved minutes from the Feb. 4, 2014 regular board meeting, minutes of WWHS staff meeting Feb. 5, 2014, personnel report, out-of-state travel, extracurricular contracts, Feb. 18 accounts payable and January financial report.
- approved Resolution 01-2014 Budget Extension/Transportation vehicle fund.
- received a report from Teri Barila on Trauma Informed Education. The board will discuss this topic again March 4.

# Personnel Report

## Employment

(Certificated)

**Jennifer Presnell**, School Psychologist, Special Education Department

## Retirement/Resignation

(Certificated)

**Joel Barber**, Science, Wa-Hi, 32 years

**Paula Nichols**, Second Grade, Blue Ridge, 7 years

**Nancy Watkins**, Language Arts/Reading, Garrison, 26 years

## Out of State Travel

**Susie Golden** to attend The Exceptional Assistant Conference and School Visitation in Phoenix, AZ (Funding: Staff Achievement Grant Professional Growth)

Quote of the Week

“The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives.”

Robert M. Hutchins

## Architects to meet with Wa-Hi staff

Thursday architects from BLRB/USKH are planning their second visit with Walla Walla High School staff members to continue discussions on design options for improving the 50-year-old school facility.

Recent survey results from Wa-Hi staff indicate 90 percent would like the district to pursue a bond measure to improve the school. HVAC limitations, classroom size and outdated technology are at the top of the list for areas in need of improvement.

Staff members are weighing the pros and cons of two primary design options. One is similar to the 2013 bond issue which eliminates exterior breezeways to allow for more classroom square footage and the other features a new science building near CTE which keeps exterior breezeways. They are also studying phasing options and projects costs.

No decision have been made regarding a proposal to take to the voters. The school board would need a resolution to the Walla Walla County Elections Department by March 7 to participate in the April 22 special election. Superintendent **Mick Miller** reported to school board members last night he would like to meet with the school board prior to March 7 to keep this option open. The next election date options are August 5 and November 4.

## Budget update: Enrollment dips slightly for 2013-14

Executive Director of Business Services **Ted Cohan** provided an update to school board members on the 2013-14 General Fund budget. Cohan reported revenues are down \$453,000, primarily due to an enrollment dip of 20 students in general education and 36 students in Special Education programs.

He said expenditures are also down approximately the same amount as the revenue shortfall so the overall budget remains balanced. Cohan anticipates a \$6.5 million restricted fund balance to end the 2013-14 budget cycle. This figure is on target with projections from when the budget was adopted in August.

## School Board Committee Assignments

### David Hampson:

- Safe Schools
- Career/Technical Education
- Classified Negotiations (w/Cindy Meyer)
- Health & Nutrition Task Force

### Anne Golden

- Curriculum Advisory/Instructional Materials
- Certificated Negotiations (w/Ruth Ladderud)
- Legislative Representative
- District Calendar
- WWVEA Liaison

### Sam Wells

- Extracurricular Supervisors Negotiations
- Administrative Negotiations
- School-Based Health Clinic
- Technology/Telecommunications

### Ruth Ladderud

- Community Facilities Task Force
- WWVEA Liaison
- Head Start Policy Council
- Certificated Negotiations (w/Anne Golden)

### Cindy Meyer

- Explorer Advisory Committee
- Parent Advisory
- Classified Negotiations (w/David Hampson)
- Citizens for Schools Liaison
- AVID Liaison

Visit us online  
[www.wwps.org](http://www.wwps.org)